

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 EB-11 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 COA-02 IO-12

SCI-06 EPA-04 INT-08 CG-00 RSR-01 /154 W

----- 120310

R 051920 Z APR 73

FM AMCONSUL NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4148

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

CINCLANT

UNCLAS NASSAU 464

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PDEV, PBOR, BF

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER' S SPEECH ON GOBI TERRITORIAL

BOUNDARIES AND DEFENSE

LOCAL PRESS REPORTS SPEECH APRIL 4 TO FREEPORT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BY PAUL ADDERLEY, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, WHO MADE FOLLOWING POINTS RELATING TO BAHAMIAN TERRITORIAL BOUNDARIES AND DEFENSE.

1. HE REITERATED THE GOBI' S INTENTION TO PRESS THE ARCHIPELAGO PRINCIPLE IN ORDER TO GUARD BAHAMIAN INTERESTS IN MATTERS OF FISHERIES, MINERALS, AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION.
2. COLONIAL BOUNDARIES AND FISHERIES ZONES HAVE CREATED A MOSAIC OF ALMOST INTOLERABLE AREAS OF HIGH SEAS, TERRITORIAL SEAS, AND INTERNAL WATERS ALL SUBJECT TO DIFFERENT LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS. THIS PROBLEM CAN BE AVOIDED AND AT THE SAME TIME THE BAHAMAS CAN GUARANTEE FREE PASSAGE OF MERCHANT AND WARSHIPS IN SEA LANES THROUGH THE ARCHIPELAGO.

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3. THE GOBI WILL SEEK TO HAVE THE COUNTRY'S BOUNDARIES DEFINED IN A FASHION BENEFICIAL TO THE MAINTENANCE OF HARMONIOUS RELATIONS WITH ALL ITS NEIGHBORS, WHILE PROTECTING LEGITIMATE BAHAMIAN INTERESTS.

4. TURNING TO DEFENSE, THE MINISTER NOTED THE GOBI WILL BE CONCERNED WITH SUCCESSION TO TREATIES MADE ON ITS BEHALF BY THE UK, BY WHICH THE GOBI IS BOUND. HE DID

3. IDENTIFICATION ASSISTANCE. CANADA PRESSED HARD AND REPEATEDLY FOR THE US TO UNDERTAKE AN OBLIGATION TO LEND IDENTIFICATION ASSISTANCE NOT MERELY IN DAMAGE BUT IN OTHER CONTEXTS. WE DECLINED SAYING, INTER ALIA, THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF FISHING EXPEDITIONS AND THE DRAIN ON COMPUTER RESOURCES COULD BE EXTENSIVE. THE SOVIET PARTICIPANT, KOLOSsov, WAS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR BUT INDICATED THAT IN ANY EVENT THE SOVIETS WOULD NOT WANT TO ACCEPT AN ASSISTANCE OBLIGATION IN OTHER THAN DAMAGE CONTEXT. EVEN IN THE DAMAGE CONTEXT HE WAS NOT ENTIRELY SURE THE US FORMULATION WAS SATISFACTORY. (COMMENT: THE SO-CALLED "COMMON" TEXT WILL NEVERTHELESS CONTAIN THE US CLAUSE).

4. WHICH STATES MAY SEEK IDENTIFICATION ASSISTANCE. KOLOSsov OBJECTED TO THE OBLIGATION TO FURNISH IDENTIFICATION ASSISTANCE TO A STATE PARTY TO THE LIABILITY CONVENTION "OR" TO THE REGISTRATION TREATY. WE AGREED TO DELETE MENTION OF THE LIABILITY CONVENTION IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE STATES TO ADHERE TO THE REGISTRATION TREATY.

5. CONSULTATION ON IMPROVED METHODS OF IMPLEMENTING THE REGISTRATION TREATY; REVIEW CLAUSE. CANADA AND FRANCE URGED INCLUSION OF A CLAUSE ALONG THE LINES OF THEIR ART VII, WHICH PROVIDES THAT "STATES PARTIES AGREE TO CONSULT FROM TIME TO TIME, PARTICULARLY THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS COMPETENT ORGANS, IN ORDER TO DETERMINE, IN THE LIGHT OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ADVANCES, IMPROVED METHODS OF GIVING EFFECT TO THIS CONVENTION." WE SAID THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE FORUM ALREADY PROVIDES PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONSULTATION. HOWEVER, THE USSR SAID THERE COULD BE CONSIDERABLE ARGUMENT IN THE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE OVER THIS ASPECT; KOLOSsov SAID THAT THE SOVIETS CAN ACCEPT A PROVISION ALONG THE LINES OF THE C-F AND THEY COULD ALSO AGREE TO A SUITABLY WORDED REVIEW CLAUSE. THE US AGREED TO REPORT SOVIET

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WILLINGNESS AND THE C- F DESIRES IN THIS REGARD. COMMENT: WE THINK THE SOVIETS ARE CORRECT IN ASSERTING THAT OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE WILL WANT SOMETHING ALONG THESE LINES. REQUEST AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT THIS PROVISION, AS WELL AS AN APPROPRIATELY WORDED REVIEW CLAUSE, SHOULD THIS BECOME NECESSARY IN ORDER TO CONCLUDE THE REGISTRATION TREATY NEGOTIATION ON SATISFACTORY TERMS.

6. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. THE FOUR DELS AGREED TO THE STANDARD CLAUSE APPLYING THE AGREEMENT TO AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION THAT CONDUCTS SPACE ACTIVITIES (EG ESRO) AND WHICH ACCEPTS THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE TREATY.

7. MARKING. CANADA ASKED TWO QUESTIONS: (A) COULD THE US AND USSR ACCEPT AN OBLIGATION TO MARK EACH " SPACE OBJECT (PAYLOAD) WITH A REGISTRATION NUMBER ... IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LATEST SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES IN THIS FIELD" (SEE C- F ART IV)? (B) IF THE US AND THE USSR CANNOT ACCEPT A COMPULSORY MARKING REQUIREMENT, CAN THEY ACCEPT A TREATY PROVISION ASKING STATES TO CONSIDER MARKING THEIR SPACE OBJECTS ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS? CANADIAN AND FRENCH REPS SAID THEY BELIEVED THAT US- SOVIET ACCEPTANCE OF EVEN A " ONE- TIME" MARKING PROVISION (IE MARK THE PAYLOAD EXTERNALLY WITH THE NAME OF THE LAUNCHING STATE) WILL HAVE AN IMPORTANT PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT IN STIMULATING SUBCOMMITTEE- WIDE ACCEPTANCE OF A PROPER REGISTRATION TREATY. KOLOSISOV SAID THE SOVIETS WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY WITH MARKING AND HE THOUGHT THEY WOULD NOT EASILY CHANGE THEIR VIEWS IN THIS REGARD. THEY WERE PREPARED TO EXPLAIN IN THE WORKING GROUP THE IMPRACTICALITY OF MARKING, HE SAID.

8. THE MEETING CONCLUDED WITH MILLER SAYING HE WOULD PULL THE VARIOUS COMMON PROVISIONS TOGETHER AND PRESENT A TEXT TO THE WORKING GROUP PM 5 APRIL. ON LEAVING, WE DISCOVERED HE HAD LEFT AN ARTICLE IN BLANK, APPARENTLY TO INDICATE DISAGREEMENT AS TO MARKING. WE URGED HE NOT RPT NOT PRESENT A TEXT IN THIS MANNER BUT SIMPLY LIST COMMON ARTICLES SERIALY AND LEAVE INDICATION OF POINTS NOT AGREED TO HIS ORAL PRESENTATION. HE AGREED.

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9. MILLER THEN PRESENTED THE TEXT TO MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP AT THE AFTERNOON MEETING IN

SUCH A WAY AS NOT RPT NOT TO INDICATE THAT ANY ONE OF
THE FOUR POWERS HAS AGREED TO IT .

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NASSAU00464
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NASSAU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730434/aaaahres.tel
Line Count: 185
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 03 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <16-Aug-2001 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971201
Subject: FOREIGN MINISTER'S SPEECH ON G
TAGS: PBOR, PDEV, BF, PBOR, PDEV
To: ARA
CINCLANT
LONDON
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005